

The Honorable Vic Fazio  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Fazio:

I am pleased to respond to your letter dated August 11, 1983, to Chairman Palladino of the NRC, concerning releases of radioactive material from McClellan Air Force Base near Sacramento. That facility is licensed by the NRC to conduct research and development operations. The NRC has recently completed an inspection of those operations. The inspection verified that only very small quantities of radioactive materials are released from the NRC licensed operations and these releases are well within NRC standards for uncontrolled use. It should be noted, however, that there may be DOD military operations occurring at McClellan over which we have no authority and on which we have no information.

The inspection report is being prepared, and will be available by the end of September. Water and sediment samples from Magpie Creek, taken independently by our Inspector, are currently being analyzed. The results will be included in our inspection report. We will send a copy of the report to you when it is completed. Copies of the report will also be transmitted to the media in the Sacramento area. The State of California Department of Health has been kept informed and they will also receive a copy of the NRC report.

As a result of our inspection, we plan to take enforcement action against McClellan for one minor violation of our requirements. We also plan to recommend that they monitor Magpie Creek for radioactivity on a regular basis.

Please let me know if we can provide any further assistance or information.

Sincerely,

William J. Dircks  
Executive Director for Operations

bcc: J. Roe, OEDO            SECY 83-2157  
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